

WASHINGTON NEWS

GOSSIP

By CHARLES BROOKS SMITH.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 15.—It doesn't require any finely sensitized intuition to know how official Washington feels over the Republican landslide in Maine. It was a sledgehammer blow over its solar plexus. The government leaders can see nothing except ominous significance in the result. And it may as well be stated here and now that the avalanche was much of a surprise to Republicans as it was to Democratic leaders. Scrambled results were anticipated from the count.

In a significant way, it is regarded here, of course, as telling with scientific and barometric accuracy the national political trend; a prophetic sign of the election of Charles E. Hughes. The concrete results prove beyond cavil three things of highest importance.

(1) The amalgamation of the Republicans and Progressives is no longer speculative but an established fact.

(2) The Republicans have gained a member of the House of Representatives.

The interest of the West Virginians here—those of Republican allegiance, at any rate, is centered in the three above enumerated and indisputable facts. The whyfore is obvious.

If the Progressive and Republican currents in West Virginia have flowed together, as in Maine, it is all over but the shouting. It was indicated in a large measure in the 1914 elections, but emphasized with force when the second congressional district flipped over last May and elected Col. George M. Bowers to the lower branch of the Congress. It was indicated by the size of the Republican vote cast in the June primary, as well.

While Maine's indelibly displayed trend toward Hughes for President is, of course, pleasing to West Virginia Republicans, as it is to all Republicans everywhere, yet the West Virginians have never from the time of the placing of Hughes and Fairbanks in the field as the party's national candidates entertained any misgivings about their not being able to carry West Virginia's sixteen good votes into the electoral college with a whoop and a hurrah. It is merely a matter of arithmetic there—just what their majority will be. Estimates range all the way from 20,000 to 40,000 majority, with most guesses centering around 30,000. Privately, no Democratic leader who is serious of his political judgment, and his reputation for seeing things as it is, will take from his other concerns to argue it. He admits that the Wilson-Marshall ticket hasn't a rabbit's chance in West Virginia. In the partisan prints, of course, no such admissions are made, nor none such expected. It isn't the way of running campaigns.

But its Nos. 2 and 3 in the above statement of Maine's results which come home to the West Virginia G. O. P. patriots with the most force. It has shot their hopes of sending Hughes to Congress, as in the good old days of yore, a solid Republican delegation, up to a high numeral on the dial. They regard their prospects as bright, indeed, and they are going to make a fight for it, aided and abetted by the three big committees of the national party organization, which did such fine work in Maine, that will bring home to every Republican voter personally the absolute necessity of helping to make Congress Republican in both branches so that their President-to-be Hughes will have a free hand and no partisan hindrance in the legislative branch of the government. This was the argument dinged to the ears of the party voters in Maine, and it succeeded. The three committees which did this were: The National Committee, the National Republican Congressional Committee, and the special committee of Republican Senators, at the head of which is Senator Weeks, of Massachusetts. The last named committee is charged with the special duty of electing a Republican United States Senator. All three committees will have a hand in the West Virginia campaign, working through the Republican State Committee for the most part, as they have never had in any prior campaign.

Taking the United States Senate away from the Democratic party is, to the mind of the leaders of the party, the biggest and hardest task which now confronts them. They aren't beset by any permanent doubts about being unable to elect Hughes, nor have they a doubt of any considerable magnitude as to their ability to carry the majority in the House of Representatives. They haven't since they made such astounding gains in the branch in the elections of 1914. But when it comes to swiping the United States Senate away from the Democratic party that is a boss of another color.

But they are fighting for it, their hopes are rosier since Maine was heard from. They gained a Senator there, and now confronting them is the task of winning eight seats held by the Democrats instead of nine, as was the case before last Tuesday, and at the same time holding every seat they now hold. It is giving away no secret to state that a gain of a Republican United States Senator in West Virginia is counted on by the party managers here as a certainty. In whatever claims that they have issued up-to-date, West Virginia has been counted on as the dearest sure thing in a Senatorial way that they have on hand. Congressman Howard Sutherland is as good as elected to the upper house as far as they are concerned. They are no worrying over what is going to fall to his lot. That being the case, they are confronted with the necessity of holding every Senate seat they now hold and grabbing off six which are now occupied by more or less rugged and sturdy disciples of the New Freedom sans the time-worn policy of arbitration.

That brings the national contest in West Virginia down to the six congressional districts, all now an untied in their present alignments. However, casting up the votes of the various counties which compose them, it is not a difficult matter to get a line on what they will do if conditions are normal. All six are Republican normally, and several of them closer than the others. The Fifth is the strongest district of the bunch. The reelection of Congressman Edwards isn't a question for dispute at all, and the contest there will be a close one. Mostly in name, that's all. He elected Col. George M. Bowers and renominated him last year with a smashing majority of 10,000.

ond district to reverse the stand it took in the merry month of May when it unmistakably voiced its preference for Bowers over Woods. The Fourth district which tripped on the Democratic lure in 1910 and was quick to climb right back strong in 1912 and 1914 the gallant young Moss leading it, may reasonably be expected to stand pat with the no less popular Harry C. Woodard (carrying the banner. It nominated him by 5000, thereby showing that it wanted him and indicating what it intends doing in November. The Third is more of an unknown quantity. It is more of a "new" district than any of the other five. Yet, it is Republican normally. Stuart P. Reed's nomination by approximately 4000 over as popular and able a man as H. Roy Waugh would seem to show that Reed is in an advantageous position there. He is a veteran campaigner, and has spoken in every school house and at every cross roads in every county in the new ballfield.

As the situation stands, the Republican leaders are claiming that their party will win these four congressional districts with hardly a struggle. They expect the only real fight against them to be made in the First and Sixth districts, where Neely and Littlepage, respectively, claim to enjoy the advantage of being in the harness. The Republican managers conceded no such claim, but do concede that they will have to make the most aggressive fights in these two districts. Fact the matter is, the fight's on, and it is aggressive. The district represented by Littlepage is probably a harder row for a Democrat to hoe than the First, though the First is Republican. In both these districts the Republicans have candidates who were popular selections of the party. Dr. Goodby who, as a candidate for the State Senate caused the political star of ex-Governor MacCorkie to set permanently, backs in the fame of that accomplishment, which proves more than a raft of oral argument what he can do in the way of winning. Col. Thomas W. Fleming, of Fairmont, who has it in mind to measure the length of the many political figure of Major Neely on the mat, has long ago showed to the good people of the First that as a successful campaigner he is no slouch and is entitled to rank abreast of the best of them.

In getting a line on the situation in the First and Sixth districts it should not be forgotten that the two times Neely was elected he scratched in on a minority vote of the district. Littlepage did the same in 1914, but in 1910 rode the Democratic tidal wave. If as in Maine, the Republicans and Progressives are dancing along hand-in-hand in those districts, well, as the saying is, "Good Night" to the Major and Ladies for Adams.

Not for many years in West Virginia will the importance of lacking a solid congressional delegation be so continually kept before the Republican voters as in this year of grace. All Washington horsemen and numerous friends in this city were shocked when the news was received here yesterday that Ralph Coffin, one of the best known Washington riders had been probably fatally hurt in a fall from a Bluebird-Graham fair yesterday. Late dispatches today seem to indicate that Mr. Coffin's condition is not so serious as first reported. The accident, it is said, happened just after the start in the steeple chase, when the horses reached the first hurdle. One horse refused to take the hurdle and turned across the path of Coffin's horse. Coffin, who is but twenty-two years old is one of the best known horsemen in this section of the country. He is a nephew of Gov. William Magoen, of Panama, with whom he makes his home in Washington. He is also well known through Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia where he has participated in riding events, making a host of friends among the horsemen, and the younger society sets of those sections.

Hon. and Mrs. Isaac T. Mann, their daughter, Alice, and their son, have left for their home in Bramwell, where they will spend the remainder of the summer, returning to Washington after the election. They have just returned from Bass Rocks, Mich., where they have spent the summer.

Milton F. Blaney, of Grafton, W. Va., a clerk in the Navy Department who is a patient at the Government Hospital for the Insane, escaped again this week. Blaney was sent there early in July and has escaped three times. On the occasion of his first escape, it is said, he returned voluntarily, and in his recent trip he left the institution unnoticed, and several hours later telephoned the hospital that he would return in a few hours. Before he had an opportunity to return, however, he was overtaken by the government authorities and returned in an automobile.

Congressman Neely secured today through the State Department a passport for Franklin F. Day, of Fairmont, for a trip through southern Russia. Mr. Day is an employee of the Consolidated Coal Co., and is making the trip to investigate a new field which, it is said, is being opened in that section of the Czar's domain.

BUFFALO BILL



Buffalo Bill Is Coming To Fairmont

PREPAREDNESS SPECTACLE TO BE BIG FEATURE OF HIS WILD WEST SHOW.

The definite announcement is made that the Buffalo Bill (Himself)—101 Ranch shows will exhibit in Fairmont, Friday, Sept. 29. The amalgamation of these two notable shows was one of the amusement surprises of the season, but the result has justified the experiment. For one thing it means a larger and more representative exhibition, and at the same time it has afforded opportunities for introducing big and novel features that would otherwise be impossible. Probably the most interesting feature of the consolidation is the fact that Buffalo Bill, who is undoubtedly a character of international interest, has returned to the saddle, and actively participates in the performances. This in itself would give the combined shows distinction. Another fact of unusual interest is the new spectacular military offering, "Preparedness," in which the United States War Department has taken such an active interest that furloughs have been granted a large number of soldiers from the regular army, in order that the display may be a genuine picturization of Uncle Sam's defenders.

There will be two performances in this city, with a free street military and frontier pageant at 10:30. An especially interesting incidental feature of the coming of the show to this city will be a recruiting tent, where enlistments will be received for Uncle Sam's regular army. Advertising car No. 1 is in the city today and a small army of publicity men has been busy spreading the glad news.

NELSON TOMORROW

—THEATER— SATURDAY

THE LITTLE VOLUNTEER
A three-part Essanay feature with Joyce Fair leading, supported by Hugh Thompson, Edmund F. Cobb and a strong supporting company.

AN AERIAL JOY RIDE
Plump and Runt in a reel of comedy that ought to be a live one if the title indicates anything.

THE HOODOO OF DIVISION B
Helen Gibson continues to do all sorts of daring things that make her audience gasp for breath, and wonder how long it will be until she really does get killed. This number is as strong as usual, and is not lacking in the hair-raising thrills that has made Helen's pictures famous.

Admission—Mat. 5c to all. Ev. Adults 10c. Chil. 5c.

How to Keep Your Child From CONTRACTING INFANTILE PARALYSIS

- (1) Carefully regulate the child's bowels with castor oil.
- (2) Spray the child's nose and throat morning and evening with a mild antiseptic solution such as Dobell's Solution, Listerine or Glycothymoline. (Do not spray forcefully, but gently).
- (3) Have the child brush its teeth thoroughly morning and evening.
- (4) Keep the child on a plain wholesome diet with a minimum of sweets. (Fruits should be washed before eating).
- (5) Outdoor exercise is essential; but children should be kept from grouping at this time.

The above applies especially to infantile paralysis. It applies at all times with equal force to all the diseases of childhood such as scarlet fever, diphtheria, measles, whooping-cough and chicken-pox.

C. M. RAMAGE, M. D.
Health Officer,
C. R. WEIRICH, M. D.
Director of Division of Preventable Diseases,
State Health Dept.

PLAYS :: VAUDEVILLE :: PICTURES

IN THE FRONT ROW

HEADLINERS TONIGHT.
Stock Production.
Hippodrome... When the Cat's Away Comedy.
Colonial... Fun in a Cabaret Pictures.

Nelson... Enoch Arden Princess... The Eternal Question Dixie... Gloria's Romance Ideal... Fate's Decision Grand... Fate's Boomerang

Oh! What a night!
The end of a perfectly wet day cast a shadow of gloom over the seven play houses in this town.

It was the last night of "A Hotel Mixup" at the Colonial—
The opening night of the Hippodrome players' much heralded entrance into all comedy—
"Who's Guilty" featured at the Ideal—

And all the other picture houses with extra good film attractions.

And old "Jude Pluv," seeing that everybody was putting on their best, put on a show of his own. And it rained, and it rained.

Weather like that might be sufficient excuse for staying away from prayer meeting, but it was not enough to deter more than fifteen per cent. of the usual Thursday night crowd from seeking its favorite places of amusement.

The business in some houses was nearly normal, despite the conditions. In several instances it was surprisingly large—particularly so at the Hipp, where there were only few vacant chairs.

"It's surprising how business keeps up."

"The DeWolfe Fun Makers" have a complete change of musical comedy at the Colonial today. The management's advance announcement declares this last one to be the best of the three shows put on here this week.

We caught Dave Hellman, of the Hipp, in a communicative mood last night and boned him for a little spiel on the stock company situation as he views it from the box office. He's strong for Fairmont, and so are all of the company. They like the town and its people. He says as far as any town is concerned "stock" has it all over

one-night stands and traveling repertory companies.

"When players can settle down in a city like this, the same as other people, they can live a better life and do their work just as well, and becoming acquainted in a community they can enjoy its respect and make a far deeper impression."

"Best of all," he said, "the resident stock company finds its art put to a more severe test. Playing the same part over and over, night after night, almost anybody could develop some proficiency. But when a person must learn two new parts a week and play before the same audiences all the time, and when he has established a certain standard for himself by one or two successful performances, he is constantly put to it to do his best."

The Nelson bill tonight includes the Selig Battelfield picture, "Taming Grouch Bill," a wild west comedy, a George Ade story, and a picturization of Tennyson's "Enoch Arden."

The advance sale of seats for "The Garden of Allah" is now on at Martin's Drug store.

The headliner at the Princess for today and tomorrow is Mme. Petrova in "The Eternal Question."

"When the Cat's Away" is a rollicking comedy that reaches the hilarious stage in spots. The Lewis-Oliver players got a lot of hand-clapping and laughs out of the big audience that witnessed their efforts to do the best they could with the piece which added a star to the crown of Willie Collier in his palmiest days. It is high-class comedy all through and a succession of mirth provoking situations arise out of two elopements in which two families get badly mixed up in their kinships. The play will run the balance of the week, after which Mr. Lewis

will begin producing a line of plays especially selected for the winter season.

OLD STAGER.

Thoroughbred Stock At Waynesburg Fair

WAYNESBURG, Sept. 15.—The Big Waynesburg Fair will be held next week, beginning Tuesday, September 19, and lasting four days. The racing card contains three harness races on Wednesday, four Thursday and three again on Friday. There will also be a running race each day.

The exhibit of live stock will be the largest ever held in Green county. The county has long been famous for its fine thoroughbred stock. Many exhibitors from outside the county will be here in competition with local exhibitors. Among the outside breeders will be Bert Thompson of Sunbury with his Herefords. He will have a cow with him that has taken first prize in the international live stock show at Chicago.

Every department of farm life will be well represented at the big fair. The Ladies Hall will surpass all former efforts.

From Frying Pan to Fire.

"Who was that tough-looking chap I saw you with today, Hicks?"

"Be careful, Parker! That was my twin brother."

"By jove, old chap, forgive me! I ought to have known."

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